



OUR SOCIAL MISSION

BY CARITAS SINGAPORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Lent is a time of showing love to others



As we begin our annual Lenten pilgrimage, we reflect on this time to give of ourselves to those in need

THE traditional practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving during Lent are not mere rituals but observances that Pope Benedict XVI says "are an expression of our commitment to conversion". Lent teaches us to live the love of Christ.

We can show this love by sharing and giving to others who have less than we do. Our human weakness is to accumulate more than necessary to sustain our mortal lives. This can lead us to greed and putting materialistic goods in place of God.

The practice of almsgiving is a reminder of God's love for us. We, in turn, should turn our attention to others, and demonstrate the same love that God has for us onto others.

Charity should be an act that happens every day of the year. But during Lent, the Archdiocese reminds us of this act of love through Charities Week.

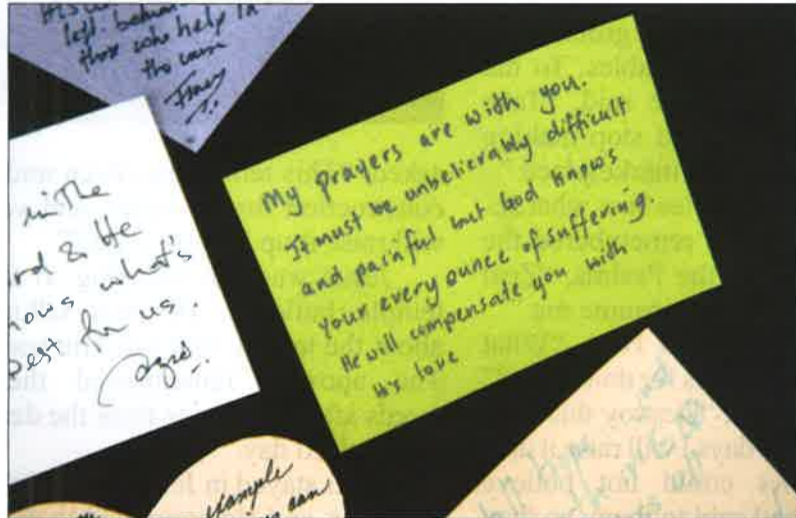
This annual fundraising campaign provides much needed support for the work of Caritas Singapore and its member organisations.

Together, they serve over 50,000 of the less fortunate in our community. Every one of them has a personal story to tell; the poor and destitute wondering where their next meal will come from, the physically and mentally handicapped crying out for love, abused migrant workers in despair, the terminally sick seeking comfort in their suffering and prisoners asking forgiveness and a second chance in life.

Charities Week 2012 is organised by Caritas Singapore, the umbrella body for 23 Catholic charities and organisations that have changed the lives of so many people for the better, regardless of race or religion.

Collectively, these charities offer more than 70 social programmes which serve a wide spectrum of needs such as the poor, broken families and children, people living with HIV/AIDS and overseas humanitarian aid in times of natural disasters.

Funds raised during Charities Week



Your donations during Charities Week 2012 will help more than 50,000 beneficiaries of Caritas Singapore's member organisations. The work includes caring for people with HIV and AIDS, disaster work overseas, helping foreign workers to improve their skills, and journeying with those who need hospice care.

2012 will enable these organisations to continue doing their work. All proceeds will go towards a common chest to support the work of Caritas Singapore and its member organisations.

Besides contributing money, you can also offer your time and talents to help in the work of our Catholic charity and community organisations. For more information on how you can contribute, visit www.caritas-singapore.org.

The work of helping those in need never stops. We can spread the love of God to others through our faith and daily actions.

All of us have been blessed in many ways. We can make a positive contribution in the lives of others by sharing what God has given us, either by making a donation towards Charities Week 2012 or becoming a volunteer.

Giving and caring for those who have less during Lent is a reminder of God's great love for us.

Give and change lives

To contribute, pick up a Charities Week 2012 appeal envelope from your parish or download a donation form from www.caritas-singapore.org. If you require tax deduction on your donation, kindly tick the box and provide us with your NRIC number.

Cash contribution: Drop the appeal envelope in your parish offertory box.

Cheque contribution: Write a cheque payable to "Caritas Singapore" and mail it to: 55 Waterloo Street #09-03 Singapore 187954

Please give generously.

With effect from 1 January 2011, all donors who require tax deduction on their contributions are required by the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS) to provide their tax reference numbers (eg NRIC / FIN / UEN). IRAS will no longer accept claims for tax deduction based on donation receipts.

The Social Mission Conference 2012

Partnering
Giving to the Poor
Living Our Faith

Care for the poor and working to alleviate poverty is part of our Christian living.

This year, the Social Mission Conference 2012 will set the stage for a mindset change. Through guided reflections and learning, you are invited to make that change and discover meaningful ways to live your faith.

Make yourself free for this biennial gathering.

Date: Saturday, 1 September 2012

Venue: Catholic Junior College (Performing Arts Centre)

Time: 8.45am to 5pm